

REMARKS

Claims 3-8 and 12-25, as amended, remain herein.

Claims 5 and 6, both of which were formerly dependent upon claim 3, have now been amended to be in independent form, thereby mooted the rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants note and appreciate the indication in the Office Action that claims 3, 4, and 23-25 are allowed.

This Amendment is believed to place this application fully in condition for allowance, and surely places it in better condition for any appeal. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment, and allowance of all claims 3-8 and 12-25 are respectfully requested.

Claims 5-8 and 13-22 were rejected under § 112, second paragraph, because each of claims 5 and 6 allegedly did not further limit base claim 3. As indicated above herein, each of claims 5 and 6 has now been amended to be in independent form, but otherwise is in the scope intended by formerly dependent claims 5 and 6, respectively. Thus, there is now no longer any alleged failure to further limit a base claim. Accordingly, each of claims 5 and 6, and all claims 7, 8 and 13-22 dependent thereon, are proper in form. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection, and allowance of claims 5-8 and 13-22 are respectfully requested.

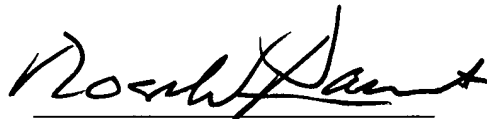
For the foregoing reasons, all claims 3-8 and 13-25 are now proper in form and patentably distinguished over all grounds of rejection in the Office Action. Accordingly, allowance of all claims 3-8 and 13-25 is respectfully requested.

Serial No. 10/802,804

The PTO is authorized to charge/credit any fees/overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4293 (Order No. 28953.7263). Should the Examiner believe that further changes would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger W. Parkhurst", written over a horizontal line.

Roger W. Parkhurst
Registration No. 25,177

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STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 429-6415

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